

California Psychology Supplemental Examination (CPSE) Fact Sheet

(formerly the California Jurisprudence and Professional Ethics Examination (CJPEE))

The examination will consist of multiple-choice items that evaluate a candidate's knowledge, skills, and abilities in the following areas:

Content Area	Content Area Description	Percent Weight
Crisis Assessment and Intervention	This area addresses the candidate's ability to identify, evaluate, and manage the patient's immediate crisis(es) including but not limited to danger to self or others, and grave disability.	22
Clinical Assessment and Evaluation	This area addresses the candidate's ability to identify a patient's presenting problems and to collect and integrate information within the patient's interpersonal and cultural context. This area includes psychological testing, the ability to formulate diagnoses and provide recommendations.	22
Treatment Interventions	This area assesses the candidate's ability to develop a theoretically-derived treatment plan and prioritize treatment goals based on assessment and diagnoses. This area includes the ability to implement, evaluate, and modify clinical interventions as well as to identify the clinical impact of legal and ethical responsibilities on treatment.	17
Legal and Ethical Standards	This area assesses the candidate's ability to apply legal, ethical, and current professional standards in practice.	39
TOTAL		100

Each form of the CPSE will consist of 100 scored questions and 15 pretest (nonscored) questions, all multiple choice. The pretest questions will be presented randomly throughout the examination and will not be identified to the candidates. In addition to the standard multiple choice questions, certain questions will also be based upon 6 – 10 vignettes. Candidates will have three hours to complete the examination. A new form of the CPSE exam will be available every six months. Therefore, if a candidate does not pass the CPSE, the candidate must wait six months before sitting for the CPSE again.

Candidate results will initially be withheld until an acceptable number of candidates (approximately 100) have taken the CPSE, allowing for a statistical analysis of the examination questions. The purpose of this analysis is to ensure that candidates are not penalized for poorly performing questions. Although every step is taken to provide quality examination questions, an analysis based on candidate responses is the final step in the quality control process. Candidates taking the CPSE after the analysis has been performed will receive their results immediately following their administration time.

Candidates are encouraged to trust in and use their clinical education, experience and judgement as a basis for responding to the examination items in addition to the Summary of California Laws, Laws and Regulations Relating to the Practice of Psychology, which are both available on the Board's website and the APA Code of Conduct and Ethical Principles which you may obtain from APA's website at www.apa.org.